House Un-American Activities

WASHINGTON (AP) — The House Committee on Un-American Activities probe into the disturbances during the Democratic National Convention in Chicago could result in some wild sessions if the panel's controversy-marked history is an indication.

Called to appear before a special panel of the committee, which opened a week's worth of hearings today, are several antiwar protestors who produced some of the committee's most raucous hours two years ago.

Jerry Rubin, now a leader of the Youth International Party, or Yippies, appeared at the 1966 hearings into antiwar protests in a rented Revolutionary War uniform and was thrown out, along with 50 other persons.

Last week Rubin and Thomas E. Hayden, founder of the Students for Democratic Society, which has campaigned for abolition of HUAC, burned their committee subpoenas on the University of California's Berkeley campus.

Both, however, have said they would appear and there have been several reports that groups of demonstrators might try to disrupt the hearings.

In light of the reports and because of the past incidents, the committee has taken special security precautions in hopes of heading off disturbances.

Space in the hearing room is limited to 25 newsmen and only 75 spectators. The news people will need special passes to leave and re-enter the room, and there have been reports that the other onlookers will need special credentials to get in.

Also scheduled to appear are David Dellinger, Rennie Davis and Robert Greenbelt of the National Mobilization Committee

Committee Probes Chicago

to End the War in Vietnam, and Abbie Hoffman of the Yippies.

Chicago Mayor Richard J. Daley has also been asked to testify.

The hearings were called after police and antiwar demonstrators battled in Chicago's streets. the demonstrators charged the police with brutality, while Daley said the protestors were led by elements devoted to the violent disruption of the convention.

In the 30 years since the committee was set up, it has been involved in constant, vitriolic disagreements over its tactics, goals and even its right to exist.

Most of the controversy, particularly since World War II, has involved communism and internal security, although in its early days the committee looked into alleged Nazi influence in the country. More recently it has investigated such organizations as the Ku Klux Klan.

In its history, the committee has never had a proposed law approved by Congress.

Richard M. Nixon, then a representative from California, gained national prominence as a committee member during the 1948 "Pumpkin Paper" hearings which led to the perjury conviction of Alger Hiss, a high State Department official charged with lying when he testified he was not a Communist.

Americans for Democratic Action, as well as SDS, have urged abolition of the committee. The American Civil Liberties Union has criticized the committee's procedures.

Several people have tried unsuccessfully to have the committee declared unconstitutional. Some congressmen try every year to withhold money from the committee. The attempt failed 343 to 44 this year.